

# Enhancing Transportation

## Transportation Enhancement Program

INDOT's Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program is a federal program designed to fund alternative types of transportation projects. These projects broaden the focus on transportation from highway construction to funding aimed at community and quality of life enhancement by addressing open space, traffic congestion and air quality concerns. The program requires creativity and innovation in planning, design and partnership development.

The program operates on an annual cycle with project applications reviewed by the Transportation Enhancement Selection Committee. This committee consists of representatives from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, the Indiana Department of Commerce's Tourism Division, the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, the Indiana Association of Counties, the Federal Highway Administration and one representative for the Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

Congress created this program in the 1991 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), and then provided for \$3.8 billion in years 1998 through 2003. As of the end of fiscal year 2002, Indiana had approximately \$128 million worth of enhancement projects programmed and under various stages of development.

The charts below show TE funds allocated, and the monetary breakdown of 2002 projects into three main categories.

### Approved TE Funds

1998	\$16,738,000
1999	\$34,597,000
2000	\$15,792,000
2001	\$18,264,590
2002	

### 2002 TE Project Categories

Commerce	\$4,934,726
Trails	\$10,156,568
Historic	\$4,950,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,041,794</b>

To be eligible to receive TE funds, a project must be consistent with at least one of these activities:

- Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities and Education Activities
- Acquisition of Scenic or Historic Easements and Sites
- Scenic or Historic Highway Programs including Tourist and Welcome Centers
- Landscaping/Scenic Beautifications
- Historic Preservation
- Rehabilitation and Operation of Historic Transportation Buildings, Structures or Facilities
- Conversion of Abandoned Railway Corridors to Trails
- Control and Removal of Advertising
- Archaeological Planning and Research
- Environmental Mitigation of Highway Runoff Pollution and Provision of Wildlife Undercrossings
- Transportation Museums

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